The IDLER
Magazine

Public Occurrences, Comment, Excursions & Rational Entertainment

Nr 3 NOVEMBER 1964 50c THE COPY

THE CAMPAIGN

BASS FINDS WRONG TRAP

Southern Sweets Sold

OTHER DOMESTIC MATTERS

WASHINGTON

IT HASN'T BEEN a pleasant campaign. Senator Goldwater uttered inanities with such frequency that one grew weary trying to refute them. Representative Miller muckraked his way from coast to coast. President Johnson ran not against Goldwater but against Roosevelt's 1936 election record, mobilizing every last bureaucrat to fight in his campaign army. Only Senator Humphrey attempted to stick to the best traditions of American campaigning.

Nothing has been so rare these past few months as a healthy discussion of debatable issues.

Goldwater's speeches seemed based on a collection of angry letters to the editor of some tabloid newspaper. We've heard better arguments advanced by housewives comparing political notes over their Salvo at the local laundromat. Johnson's speeches were dedicated to the greater glory of Johnson. Miller's speeches became mired in the petty.

It wasn't even an exciting campaign. The shouting had a hollow sound. The Republicans had a candidate that many of them couldn't support, and others could support only with the strongest reservations. The Democrats had a candidate who was expected by all to win and who demanded not just votes, but fealty as well.

The tacit motto of the Goldwater campaign was: "I don't know much about being President but I know what I don't like." In his desire to give the people a choice, he dug up choices that had been made decades ago. The only choices that had contemporary application, such as his proposals for the handling of nuclear weapons, left one shivering.

The President had a fine record to run on. But he sullied it by his distasteful use of the entire government machinery in his attempt to create overwhelming popular support.

In the end, there really was no choice. Johnson's faults, Dean Sayre notwithstanding, were slight in comparison to the good he had done and could do for the country. And in comparison to the ignorant, uncertain, and reactionary concepts that his opponent might bring to the White House, the President was the only alternative possible. That was made clear months ago and that, perhaps, is why it has been such a disappointing campaign.

SOME HERE have taken the view that Congress' success this year is a strong refutation of arguments for Congressional reform. They forget that you can not base a legislative system on the assumption that there will always be a Lyndon Johnson in the White House. This year was a special case. Congressional reform is a difficult business that many are reluctant to tackle because they are afraid to alter a system that has worked so well for so long. But there is too much anachronism on Capitol Hill, and something is going to have to be done sooner or later.

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The Idler

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THE INTRODUCTION of the new car models brings to mind again what a fine tribute to the ingenuity of man the automobile is. Here, in one package, we can express our dreams, signify our status, satisfy our restlessness, provide convenience, stimulate the economy, keep the nation employed, seek lost youth, or find death.

WEST FELICIANA PARISH, LA.

SWEET POTATOES from the farms of 150 Negroes around here have finally found a market, thanks, in part, to a Chicago merchant who bothered to travel south and tell the local canning company that he was interested in buying the sweets this year and next. No Negroes here had registered to vote since Reconstruction Days until last year. Soon as they got the vote their market seemed to dry up. But the appearance of the Chicago man combined with a CORE boycott of sweet potato products brought the Negroes' business back again.

ADAMS COUNTY, PA.

MUSKRATS AND DROUGHT have lowered the level of the pond at Chestnut Hill Farm several feet. On the County Agent's advice, John Rockwood set a trap to capture some of the bluegills that he was afraid might cut down on the bass population in the pond. Didn't catch any bluegills, though. Only an 18" bass that didn't realize the trap wasn't for him.

WASHINGTON

SOME OF THE SUPPORTERS of the school pairing idea have been trying to create the impression that all those opposed to them are bigots. While it may be true that bigots oppose school pairing, this is hardly a valid argument for the proposal.

Carl Hansen, superintendent of Washington's public schools, is no bigot. He is one of the ablest school administrators around and one who has been dealing with the *de facto* segregation problem for a number of years.

He knows what he is talking about and here is what he says:

"The involuntary transfer of a part of the enrollment of any school is in itself a discriminatory act. The pupils who are permitted to remain in their neighborhood schools will in the main be advantaged over those who are forced to leave their neighborhoods to attend school. Or, if conditions are such that the pupils who are selected for transfer are advantaged, then those forced to remain in the neighborhood school are discriminated against.

"In any case, the involuntary transfer plan, tried out with dismal results in a number of cities, is inherently discriminatory. Aside from the principle involved, the application of the transfer principle would produce such a crop of emotion-charged difficulties that the school community would regret the day it embarked on such a course."

Discussing the idea of gerrymandering school districts to achieve racial balance, Dr. Hansen says:

"To set a boundary that will deny

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a child admission to a school in his neighborhood because of his race, even if done to reduce the level of segregation in a school, is evil in principle and dangerous in the precedent it sets. A wrongful act designed to accomplish a good purpose will sooner or later be used to accomplish a bad purpose."

As we see it, the trouble with the school pairing idea is that it attempts to correct the inadequacies of the adult world by playing sociological hopscotch with the children. This is not the way to go about it.

RECENTLY, *The Steve Allen Show* came to an end. Mr. Allen gave up his program, according to the releases, in order to meet the requirements of his new assignment, host of *I've Got a Secret*.
that the number of stations carrying his old program had dropped off and any one who has been a television professional as long as Mr. Allen can read between *those* lines.

We'll miss the midnight phone calls to Hong Kong, the good jazz, the variety of strange and interesting people who found expression on the program, the delight in the eccentricities of human beings, the clever use of the television lens, the mad flights of fancy, and the uncommon good sense in interviews with public figures.

Occasionally, while watching *The Steve Allen Show* we would switch over to Johnny Carson. Inevitably, it seemed, there would be Zsa Zsa Gabor talking about her last trip to Europe or some show business nobody discussing his forthcoming opening at the Copa. Does anyone really care where Myron Cohen is going next week?

COBLESKILL, N. Y.

COBBLESKILL to Schenectady to Utica to Canajoharie to Sharon Springs to Hyndsville, N. Y., is the route our Post Office Department has now prescribed for mail that used to travel directly the five-mile route from Cobleskill to Hyndsville.

It's really quite simple. You see, Cobleskill is under Schenectady's Zip Code number and Hyndsville is under Utica's, so any fool can see that, in the interest of efficiency, the mail will now have to travel an additional 165 miles to get where it's going.

WASHINGTON

THE NUMBER of unopposed Senators and Congressmen this year dropped significantly. In the South, especially, the tradition of the uncontested district seemed on the wane. There were only 33 uncontested Southern Districts this year, the lowest number in the 20th century.

Throughout the country there were, 41 House candidates and one Senator (Stennis of Mississippi) who were unopposed. All these lucky candidates were Democrats, with the exception of Representative Silvio O. Conte of Massachusetts, who received more than enough Democratic primary write-in votes to win the Democratic as well as his own party's Congressional nomination.

PLEASE DON'T READ THIS UNTIL AFTER THANKSGIVING

If you're the sort of person who doesn't like commercial establishments pestering you to do your Christmas shopping early, then we warn you not to read this until after Thanksgiving Day.

We agree with you, but we've got a problem. If we wait until December to make our Christmas pitch, you won't have time before the 25th to make sure your friends and relatives get the word about their gift subscription.

That's why we're telling you this month that THE IDLER will make a fine and unusual Christmas gift. A year's subscription is only $6.00 and can be obtained by sending a check or money order to

THE IDLER
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That's all we wanted to say. If you read this ad before Thanksgiving, don't get mad at us. We warned you.

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THE IDLER'S JOURNAL

The morose liberal is a specias of political beast that I don't particularly care for. He is the declared enemy of the right-wing and yet he has a similar message to bring us: the sky is falling.

In a recent issue of *The New Republic* a fine example of morose liberalism appeared under the title: *What's Eating Us? Louis J. Halle on Our National Demoralization.*

The minute I saw that, I mixed myself a drink and made a peanut butter sandwich, for it is dangerous to enter such an ominous article without being properly fortified.

"Today," Mr. Halle announced, "there is evidence of a *malaise* among the American people that amounts to widespread demoralization."

As you might have guessed, Mr. Halle draws upon Barry Goldwater and racial violence as evidence of this demoralization.

Mr. Halle fails to note that Goldwater's nomination came about not as a result of any mass sentiment of the American people or the Republican Party. Mr. Goldwater, finding a door open and a seat vacant, simply walked in and sat down. Goldwater would not have won the nomination had there been any moderately effective opposition to him. It was carelessness on the part of the GOP moderates, not national demoralization, that made him the nominee.

As I write this, I don't know how many votes Goldwater will get, but I am sure it will not be enough to support Halle's claim of a widespread *malaise.*

Mr. Halle implies that a vote for Goldwater is a demoralized vote. Yet there are plenty of reasons, good and bad, why people will vote Republican, other than out of spiritual sickness. Maybe their grandpappy was a Republican, or they like to vote the ticket, or they don't like Bobby Baker, or Hubert Humphrey is too liberal, or Goldwater is so handsome, or Johnson is going to close their Navy base, or, or, or.

In the case of racial violence, Mr. Halle has again found an abberation and blown it out of proportion.

The northern Negro riots did not represent, as Mr. Halle would have us believe, "an abandonment of patience, and a refusal of self-discipline" on the part of the civil rights movement as a whole. It was an abandonment of patience and a refusal of self-discipline on the part of a few thousand Negroes in a few cities.

Mr. Halle worries too much. He sees us struggling with problems and assumes it to be a sign of sickness. His diagnosis is wrong. Problems such as discrimination and effective relations between nations have been with us for centuries. We are making an effort to eliminate some of these problems. This is hard work, but it's not demoralizing.

Mr. Halle has a strange companion in Senator Goldwater. "I find it hard to put my finger on what's wrong," the Senator has said. "Something deep in your hearts tells you something's wrong."

The sound that Goldwater and Halle hear is not a death rattle but hearty breathing as democracy exercises itself with the unsolved issues of the day. It's nothing to be afraid of, gentlemen. Exercise is good for you. We're moving on. You coming?

THE IDLER

Judge Smith, the Chairman of the House Rules Committee, who has been in Congress 34 years, doesn't assume anything about his constituents. He got out and campaigned this year because, for a change, he had some opposition.

Judge Smith recalls once asking one constituent to vote for him and being told that she couldn't because "I always vote for the man in office."

At that time Judge Smith had served in the House 25 years.

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CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW

Accomplishments of Year Summarized

USEFUL TO KEEP

Below and on the pages that follow, we have published a review of many of the measures passed this year by the Second Session of the 88th Congress. We hope our readers find this useful and we suggest that they may wish to keep this section handy, for future reference.

Unless otherwise noted, the cost listed is the authorized amount. This year's actual appropriations are summarized separately.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL

1. Voting Rights:

Barred unequal application of voting registration requirements.

Prohibited denial of the right to vote because of immaterial errors or omissions by applicants when registering.

Required that all literacy tests be administered in writing, except where exempted by Attorney General.

2. Public Accommodations

Barred discrimination on grounds of race, color, religion or national origin in public accommodations listed below, if discrimination or segregation in such an accommodation is supported by state laws or official action, if lodgings are provided to transient guests or interstate travelers are served, or if a substantial portion of the goods sold or entertainment presented moves in interstate commerce.

Covered restaurants, cafeterias, lunch rooms, lunch counters, soda fountains, gasoline stations, motion picture houses threaters, concert halls, sports arenas, stadiums, or any hotel, motel or lodging house (except owner occupied units with five or less rooms for rent). Also covered any public establishment within or containing an accommodation otherwise covered (such as store containing a lunch counter). Not specifically covered: barber shops, retail stores, bars, small place of amusement such as bowling alleys. Specifically exempted were private clubs, except to the extent they offer their facilities to patrons of covered establishments (such as hotels).

Made it unlawful to deny any person access to these facilities because of race, color, religion or nation origin, to threaten or intimidate anyone seeking his rights under this section or to punish any person for exercising his rights under this title.

Permitted the Attorney General to intervene in private civil rights suits; also permitted the court to appoint an attorney for the complaintant.

Authorized the Attorney General to bring a civil action when he has reasonable cause to believe that a person or group of persons is engaged in a pattern or practice of resistance to the public accommodations section of this bill.

3. Desegregation of Public Facilities:

Upon written complaint of aggrieved individuals, permitted Justice Department suits to secure desegregation of state or locally owned, operated or managed public facilities, when the Attorney General believes that the complaint is "meritorious" and certifies that the aggrieved persons are unable to initiate and maintain legal proceedings because of financial limitations or potential economic or other injury to themselves or their families.

4. Desegregation of Public Education:

Required the U.S. Office of Education to make a survey and report to Congress within two years on progress of desegregation of public schools at all levels.

Authorized the Office to give technical and financial assistance, if requested, to local public school systems planning or going through the process of desegregation.

Authorized the Attorney General to file suit for the desegregation of public schools and colleges if he receives a signed complaint, believes the complaint is meritorious, and certifies

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that the aggrieved individuals are unable to initiate and maintain further orderly school desegregation.

Made clear that this law did not authorize any U.S. officials or courts to issue any order seeking to achieve racial balances in schools by transporting children from one school to another.

5. Civil Rights Commission:

Extended the life of the commission another four years and broadened some of the duties of the commission.

6. Nondiscrimination in Federally assisted programs:

Barred discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal assistance against any person because of his race, color or national origin.

Directed agencies to seek voluntary compliance, and, if compliance is not forthcoming, to cut off the federal program involved from the particular recipient or political entity involved. Agencies required to give appropriate legislative committees 30 days notice of such action.

7 Equal Employment Opportunity:

Outlawed employment practices such as discriminatory hiring and firing, segregation of employees, exclusion from union membership, and printing job notices indicating discriminatory preferences.

Enforcement of this portion will not begin to take effect for one year. Full coverage will not be in effect for five years.

Set up Equal Employment Opportunity Commission with powers to investigate, mediate, and enforce the equal employment opportunity section of the bill.

8. Registration and Voting Statistics:

Directed the Census Bureau to gather registration and voting statistics based on race, color and national origin in such areas and to the extent recommended by the Civil Rights Commission.

Required such information on a nationwide scale in connection with the 1970 census.

9. Community Relations Service:

Created a Community Relations Service in the Department of Commerce to aid communities in resolving disputes relating to discriminatory practices based on race, color or national origin.

TAX REDUCTION AND REFORM BILL

Cut individual tax liabilities $6.1 billion in 1964 and $9.1 billion in 1965. Rate reductions and reforms combined are expected to cut tax liabilities an average of 19.4% in 1965. George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO, estimated that the bill meant an increase of 7½ cents an hour for the average worker.

Cut corporate tax liabilities $1.6 billion in 1964 and $2.4 billion in 1965, representing a 7.7 percent reduction when fully effective. The rates also were revised to give special benefit to small businesses.

Added a minimum standard deduction which will aid lower income families and remove 1.5 million persons from the tax roles. Broader tax deductions were authorized for medical expenses of persons 65 or older, for dependent care expenses, for the cost of moving to a new job location, and for some types of charitable contributions.

Tightened deductions for certain state and local excise taxes and for casualty losses.

Imposed higher taxes on the value of premiums for certain employer-paid insurance, on pay received while sick, on income earned by Americans living abroad and on some oil and gas income.

Repealed the 4% dividend credit but doubled the $50 dividend exclusion.

Closed some real estate tax loopholes, but provided a tax break for some persons over 65 who sell their homes.

Provided a new averaging formula for individuals with a widely fluctuating income.

Broadened the value of the 7% investment tax credit.

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URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ACT

Authorized the Administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency to make federal grants and loans to states and localities for acquiring, constructing and improving facilities and equipment of mass transportation systems owned, operated, leased, or otherwise used by a public transportation authority.

Authorized the Administrator to make grants covering up to two-thirds of the net cost of long-range transit programs approved by him.

Gave the Administrator permission to make emergency grants of up to one-half the net cost of projects where planning has been incomplete but where there is an urgent need for action to improve mass transportation.

Provided Federal grants for persons and organizations dislocated by mass transit programs, the grants to cover 100% of moving expenses.

Protected rights of affected transit workers in such areas as job protection and collective bargaining.

Cost: $375 million over a three-year period. No state to receive more than 12.5% of the funds appropriated, excluding relocation grants. Up to $30 million may be used for research and demonstration projects.

ANTI-POVERTY BILL

Established a job corps in which young men and women aged 16 through 21 could enroll for two years. The Corps would be located in urban residential centers and would provide enrollees with education, vocational training, and useful work experience, including natural resources conservaton. The program was to enroll 40,000 in the first year and 100,000 in the second.

Authorized grants to institutions of higher education, including two year technical institutes and junior colleges, to assist programs which provide students from low-income families with part-time work so that they can earn the money to continue their education.

Authorized federal grants to community action programs conducted by state or local public and private nonprofit agencies in order to eliminate poverty.

Authorized grants to the states for pilot projects, local adult education programs, and development of state technical services to improve the education of persons over 18 who cannot read and write English.

Authorized programs to raise the income and living standards of low-income rural families and migrant workers through loans and various projects, including some aimed at migrant workers.

Authorized long-term, low-interest loans to small businesses.

Authorized transfer of funds to Health, Education, and Welfare Department for pilot projects to employ and train heads of families receiving help under public welfare programs.

Established the Office of Economic Opportunity under the White House.

Authorized the recruiting and training of Volunteers in the Service To America (VISTA) to aid in the anti poverty program.

Required every job corps enrollee to take an oath swearing allegiance to the United States and pledging support of the Constitution and the laws of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; and require all enrollees or any other recipient of funds under any section of the act to sign a non-subversive affidavit.

Total cost (first year): $947.5 million

FEDERAL PAY RAISE BILL

Raised the salaries of all federal civilian career employees and federal executives, judges, Members of Congress, legislative and judicial branch employees. Percentage increases were:

Average for classified workers	4.3%
Average for postal workers	5.6%
Top level classified employees	23.0%
Members of Congress	33.0%
Federal Executives	33.0%

Cost: $556.8 million

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FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

Authorized $375 million over fiscal years 1965-67 to meet the costs of expanding the pilot food stamp program initiated by admistrative order in 1961. Under the bill, the Secretary of Agriculture was authorized to administer a food stamp plan aimed at augmenting the diets of low-income families. Needy families in participating communities could buy, for a small fixed amount, food stamps worth a larger amount when presented for payment in local stores.

SECURITIES AMENDMENTS

Made major changes to federal securities laws. The bill was expected to provide investors with more and improved protection against stock losses from poor information and inexperienced or unscrupulous securities dealers.

Extended to companies whose stock is traded over the counter the existing information disclosure requirements applicable to companies with securities traded on a national exchange.

Required that brokers or dealers in over-the-counter securities would be subject to direct regulation of the Securities Exchange Commission if they did not join a self-regulatory securities association registered with the SEC.

INDIGENT LEGAL AID

Directed each U.S. District court to establish a plan for furnishing counsel to indigent defendents charged with felonies or misdemeanors, other than petty offenses, through court-appointed private attorneys, lawyers furnished by a bar association or legal aid agency, or a combination of the two.

Directed each court to begin operation of its plan within one year.

Provided that indigent defendents be represented at every stage of proceedings, from their initial appearance before the U.S. Court or commissioner through appeal.

NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM

Established a National wilderness preservation system.

Provided that all national forest areas already designated as wilderness, wild or canoe, be brought into the wilderness system.

Provided that areas brought into the system would continue to be managed by the government agency having jurisdiction before their inclusion.

Directed Agriculture and Interior Depts. to review resource areas under their control and to recommend within ten years inclusion or exclusion from the wilderness system.

Subject to existing private rights, prohibited within the wilderness system commercial enterprises and permanent roads.

Permitted prospecting, if compatible with the preservation of the wilderness environment.

Extended the applicability of mining and mineral leasing laws to wilderness areas through 1983.

Allowed the President to authorize prospecting for water resources, the establishment of reservoirs, power projects transmission lines and other facilities when in the public interest.

Permitted livestock grazing to continue where established.

Initially involved are 9.1 million acres of federally owned lands. Another 52 million acres will be subject to the ten-year review by the Agriculture and Interior Depts. and may be brought under the system if approved by Congress.

NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL

Established a 25-member National Council on the Arts to encourage the development of the arts in the United States.

COIN SHORTAGE

Authorized the mint to inscribe the figure "1964" on all coins minted until adequate supplies are available. The aim of this bill was to flood the market with 1964 coins, thereby decreasing their value to collectors and speculators and making it pointless to hoard them.

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APPROPRIATIONS

AGENCY	REQUESTED	APPROVED
	(All figures in billions of dollars)	
Agriculture	$5.58	$5.14
Defense	47.47	46.75
District of Columbia	.41	.38
Independent Offices	14.24	13.45
Interior	1.06	1.04
Labor-HEW	7.89	7.42
Legislative	.22	.21
Public Works	4.44	4.43
State-Justice-Commerce-Judiciary	1.96	1.72
Treasury-Post Office-Executive Offices	6.27	6.23
Foreign Aid	3.50	3.25
Military Construction	1.88	1.57

WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH

Authorized federal grants to encourage water resources research and training of water scientists and directing a catalogue of federal and other water research projects.

HIGHWAY PROGRAMS

Authorized $1.2 billion for highway construction in each of fiscal years 1966 and 1967.

HILL-BURTON ACT EXTENSION

Amended and extended the Hill-Burton Act providing for the construction and improvement of hospitals. Extension was for five years.

Amended act by placing greater emphasis on modernization of existing hospitals in urban areas.

Cost (five year): $1.36 billion.

COMMISSION ON AUTOMATION

Established a 14-member commission on automation to investigate and report upon the problems caused by automation and other technological change.

Cost: $1 million

ALASKA OMNIBUS ACT

Authorized special Alaskan relief programs.

Cost: $55.6 million

MEAT IMPORT QUOTAS

Directed import quotas for fresh, frozen and chilled beef, veal and mutton whenever imports threatened to rise ten percent or more above annual 1959-63 average import levels, adjusted to allow for growth of the U.S. market.

INTEREST EQUALIZATION TAX

Imposed a temporary retroactive tax on the purchase by Americans of certain foreign securities.

Revenue effect: About a $30 million increase annually.

SENECA INDIANS PAYMENTS

Appropriated $15 million for the resettlement and rehabilitation of Seneca Indians dislocated when part of their 31,000 acre Allegany Reservation was inundated by the construction of Kinzua Dam on the Allegheny River along the Pennsylvania-New York border.

FISHING BOAT SUBSIDIES

Revived and expanded a 1960 subsidy program for construction of fishing vessels. Subsidy set at 50 per cent of cost of construction of fishing vessel.

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HOUSING PROGRAMS

Raised the dollar limit on the amount of a home mortgage that could be insured by FHA and reduced the downpayment requirements.

Provided relief to home mortgagors whose payments on FHA-insured loans are in default due to circumstances beyond their control and provided additional protection against foreclosure for FHA-insured home owners.

Made individual elderly persons eligible for FHA-financed low and moderate-income housing.

Permitted use of urban renewal funds to enforce minimum standards housing codes in urban renewal areas.

Increased relocation benefits to persons and small businesses displaced from urban renewal areas and public housing sites.

Authorized a new program of low-interest loans to property owners in urban renewal areas to finance the rehabilitation required to make the property conform to a housing code or carry out the objectives of a urban renewal plan. The purpose of the new program was to reduce the need for demolition and removal of structures that could be rehabiliitated.

Made single low-income displacees eligible for low-rent public housing.

Extended through mid-1966 the rental housing program for the elderly in rural areas.

Cost: $956 million, including $600 million for urban renewal capital grants; also $27 million to contract for 45,000 additional public housing units.

PL 480 EXTENSION

Amended the 1954 Agricultural Trade Development and Adjustment Act (PL 480) as follows:

Extended sales of farm commodities for foreign currencies two more years and provided an authorization for expenditure commitments of up to $2.7 billion, in addition to any unused previous authorizations, over the two year period.

Extended authorized donations of U. S. surplus farm goods for emergency disaster relief and for support of economic development projects for another two years. Authorized $400 million each year in addition to the use of any unused authorization from previous years.

Included strongly restrictive provisions designed to cut off important parts of PL 480 aid to Poland and Yugoslavia.

Tightened Congressional control over expenditure of PL 480 funds, including giving Congressional agriculture committees veto powers over grants.

LAND AND CONSERVATION FUND

Established a land and water conservation fund to permit the states to plan, acquire and develop outdoor recreational facilities and to permit the Federal Government to acquire recreation areas.

Financing will come from four sources: admission and user fees charged to those using federal outdoor recreation areas designated by the President; proceeds from the sale of federal surplus property; proceeds from the existing federal tax on fuel used in motorboats (the 2-cent net tax previously went to the Highway Trust Fund); and for eight years, advance, repayable appropriation's (averaging $60 million annually) from the Treasury to help start the Fund.

WHEAT-COTTON BILL

Established program to provide U.S. factories with cotton at prices competitive with the world market while preserving farmers' income through a high price-support system.

Offered a two-year "certificate" program to farmers who agreed to hold down their wheat plantings to specified levels. The purpose of the program was to alleviate the impact of low wheat prices resulting from the 1963 wheat referendum, in which farmers, rejecting a compulsory certificate program, were left with low support prices and no controls.

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NDEA

Extended and substantially expanded the National Defense Education Act and raised fiscal 1965 authorizations for NDEA by $101 million.

UNITED NATIONS DEBT

Adopted Administration - backed resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should continue efforts to secure payment of assessments in arrears by United Nations members.

Urged that financially delinquent members be subject to penalty provisions of Article 19 of the United Nation Charter which provides that a member nation would lose its vote in the General Assembly when its unpaid assessments equalled or exceeded its unpaid assessments equalled or exceeded its total scheduled contribution for the preceding two years.

NURSE TRAINING

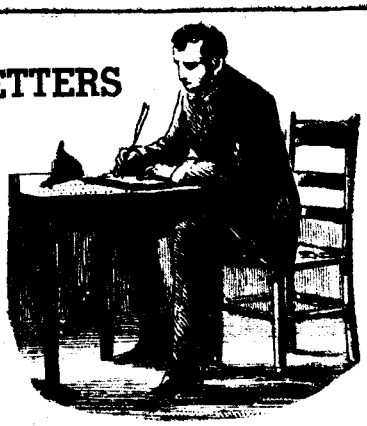
Authorized $90 million over four years for construction or rehabilitation of nursing schools. It also authorized the following funds for a five-year period: $17 million to expand nurse training programs; $41 million to defray costs to diploma schools training students under loan program; $85 million for student loan program; and $50 million for training professional nurses.

INTEROCEANIC CANAL STUDY

Authorized President to establish a commission to study the feasibility of, and select a suitable site for, a new sea-level interoceanic canal to supplement the Panama Canal.

Senator Birch Bayh cancelled a speech in INDIANA on doctor's orders. Said a handful of physicians threatened the druggist group before which he was planning to speak, warning the pharmacists to stay away or lose business.

LETTERS



MORE ON CAPTAIN LORD

Next February a book called **The Titanic and the Californian** is to be published by Hodden and Stoughton. It is by a technically qualified young author called Peter Padfield, who tries to blow the British and American inquiries sky-high so far as their attitude to the **Californian** is concerned. I am using the occasion to submit my association's official petition to the Ministry of Transport for the re-opening of Captain Lord's part of the 1912 inquiry, and am personally confident that, however incredible the idea may have seemed at one time, his name will be in due course cleared.

Leslie Harrison
General Secretary
Mercantile Marine Service Ass.
Liverpool, England

The story of Captain Lord and his role in the Titanic disaster appeared in the October issue of THE IDLER—*Ed*

NEW HAMPSHIRE SWEEPSTAKES ARTICLE

I would say this has been a most successful operation under the direction of the former head of the FBI for the New England area, and certainly appreciate your kind remarks concerning it.

Cordially,
Louis C. Wyman
Member of Congress
(New Hampshire)

WE'RE KEY

Dear Fellow Republican:

As a key Republican you know how very little of **real** political importance finds its way into the news stories out of Washington. Polls show that newsmen here are pro-Democratic by 4 to 1.

This is why we launched the (Republican Congressional Committee) **Newsletter** — to provide columnists, reporters and leading Republicans with quick,

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reliable unmanaged news. Hence, I was surprised (and embarrassed) to discover that we have not been sending it you.

Very sincerely,
William E. Miller
Member of Congress

Not as surprised (and embarrassed) as we were to discover you consider us a key Republican. The party must be in worse shape than we had imagined. —Ed.

GREAT SCENES FROM PRODUCTIONS OF THE CAPITOL HILL REPETOIRE THEATRE

(Scene: A House debate on question of exploring the possibility of building a sea-level canal across Central America)

Mr. GROSS: Is the present canal paid for?

Mr. BONNER. Does the gentleman direct his remarks to the chairman of the full committee?

Mr. GROSS: Yes, or to anyone who can answer.

Mr. BONNER. The gentleman has asked a very pointed question. Why should we build a sea-level canal?

Mr. GROSS. Just a minute. The question I asked was: Is the present canal paid for?

Mr. BONNER. No, the present canal is not paid for.

Mr. GROSS. What was the cost of the present canal?

Mr. BONNER. The cost of the present canal?

Mr. GROSS. I will tell the gentleman, so he will not take quite all my time; $380 million.

Mr. BONNER. Then, why did you ask the question?

Mr. GROSS. I just wondered if you knew the situation.

Mr. BONNER. Yes. I know. Let me tell the gentleman something. I asked you the other day when I brought up this bill would you object to it. Of course, it is your privilege to oppose this bill and, of course, I have been very friendly with you. We will not get personal in this matter.

Mr. GROSS. Did I ever tell you I was going to support this bill?

Mr. BONNER. I am going to give you the reason why we want the canal built, if you want to know.

Mr. GROSS. Did I ever tell you I was going to support this bill?

Mr. BONNER. No, you did not.

Mr. GROSS. All right. Let us get that straight.

Mr. BONNER. All right. Get that straight. But now do you want me to answer your question?

Mr. GROSS. Yes.

Mr. BONNER. Why we are going to build the canal is this——

Mr. GROSS. I understand the arguments that you have presented here and the arguments that are presented in your report. That much I know. But where do you propose to locate this canal?

Mr. BONNER. If the gentleman will just be patient a little, we will tell you. We are setting up this committee or this program to ascertain where we are going to locate the canal. There are three sites that are possible. There is one in Colombia.

Mr. GROSS. Stop right there.

Mr. BONNER. And there are two in Panama.

Mr. GROSS. Surveys have already been made of the Nicaragua-Costa Rica border canal site.

Mr. BONNER. That site has been determined as impossible in Nacaragua.

Mr. GROSS. Then, that is out. Why mention it? It is out.

Mr. BONNER. We did not mention it. I did not mention it. You mentioned it.

Mr. GROSS. Go ahead.

(CURTAIN)

UNDERESTIMATED

Sorry, but in our September issue, we underestimated the ability of Capitol Architect George Stewart and builder Matt McClosky to spend our money.

Turns out the new Rayburn Office Building is going to cost over a $100 millon rather than the mere $86 million we said.

Eighty-six million dollars or a $100 million, there's still no excuse for so much money being spent to provide offices for Congressmen.

Not only is the Stewart-McClosky Pavilion one of the most expensive buildings around; it's one of the ugliest.

The General Accounting Office is investigating the contracts for the structure. It's just too bad they didn't get started a few years back.

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BUT COME BACK TO THIS PAGE

This is where we sign up new subscribers. If you would like to receive THE IDLER each month, just fill out the form below and mail it with your check or money order.

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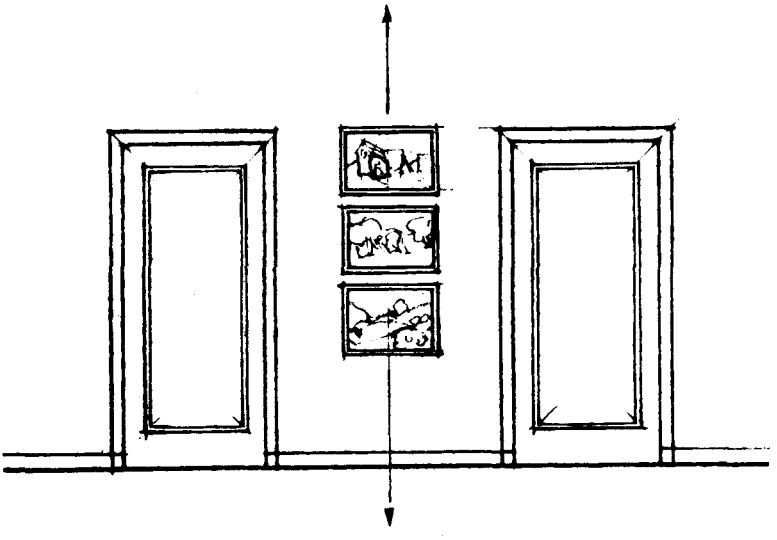

VERTICAL ARRANGEMENT OF PICTURES IN A VERTICAL WALL AREA—One of the many useful drawings in *Interior Decorating for Veterans Administration Hospitals.*

BOOK REVIEW

INTERIOR DECORATION FOR VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITALS; Allen, Dorothy S.; Government Printing Office; 60 pages; illust. in color; 40c.

Last fiscal year we spent $6.5 billion dollars for veterans' benefits and the operations of the Veterans Administration.

This amount was spent without much critical examination because everyone knows that veterans deserve the best, especially if you wish to be reelected. The Veterans Administration apparently also assumes that it deserves the best.

Judging from this fascinating new book, the VA has been making out all right. The rules laid dow in *Interior Decoration* might be easily applied to the executive suites of General Motors because, when author Allen gets through, there is little to be ashamed of in a VA Hospital.

The VA's goal is direct. Beyond providing a cheerful environment for the patient, "areas devoted to the reception of visitors, such as lobbies, the initial psychological impressions received" are meant to be conducive to a "favorable reaction by the general public toward the Veterans Administration."

Such, presumably, is supposed to be our psychological reaction to the velvet cut pile which "may . . . be used in the Director's Suite and executive conference room."

The beautiful carpet also contributes to a dignified mood, as does the use of deep colors in such rooms "which sets them apart from patient areas and expresses the confidence of staff and visitor above the dependent position of the patient."

According to this book, VA hospitals have rooms for every conceivable purpose. If you get tired of the Social Room you can move to a Recreation Room, a Solaria, a Lounge,

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a Sitting Room, or a Quiet Room. If the Chapel doesn't meet your needs, there's also the Prayer Room, the Viewing Room, or the Bereavement Room. What happens if you feel bereaved in the Viewing Room, want to say a prayer in the Chapel, or wish to be quiet in the Sitting Room, is not made clear.

This 60-page course in interior decoration assumes nothing. On page 10, we discover that there are three primary colors. "They are the elementary or rudimentary colors not composed of an other colors," the book explains with an illustrated example. Further on we learn: "Location of outlets must also be considered when placing floorlamps, and lamps on tables."

Quite rightly, the book states: "It is recommended that identical lamps be used on either side of the settee . . . since their symmetrical placement suggests a pair of lamps." We agree entirely that using a pair of lamps is an excellent way to suggest a pair of lamps.

The author admits, "In Government-owned institutions, draperies may be cconsidered by some as a luxury rather than a necessity," but counters by pointing out that they "are one of the basically accepted means of removing the chill of institutionalism in hospital buildings."

A few paragraphs on, however, she notes:

"Always bear in mind that the hospital is primarily for the *patient*, and since in VA hospitals draperies are not hung in patient's bedrooms, they should be reserved for the special areas where patients may congregate and enjoy a few hours each day."

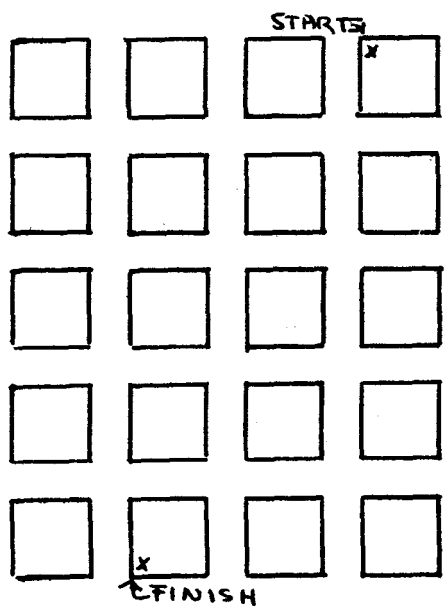
"Reserve draperies also for lobbies and visitor's rooms where guests may be given a pleasant impression of the hospital; and hang them in personnel lounges so that employees may have an attractive place in which to relax."

It would seem that drapes are for removing the chill of institutionalism for visitors and employees, but not for patients, except for "a few hours each day."

Author Allen does not compromise. The word "economy" is not a favorite one of interior decorators, and she is no exception. A high standard has been set for the Veterans Administration and Congress to maintain.

MATHEMATICAL PROBLEM

We regularly have occasion to walk from our office to a commercial district several blocks away. The boundary of this district lies two blocks west and five blocks south of our office. Our question is this: how many different routes can we take and still proceed directly to our destination? Jay-walking is illegal in Washington so we can only cross at corners. On the map below, our office is located at "Start" and the business district at "Finish."



We don't have the answer but would be interested in learning it. Since there may be mathematicians among our readers who find this problem too simple, we pose a further query: how many different routes can we take, if we postulate that there are two different routes possible down any particular block, i.e. on one side of the street or the other?

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PUERTO RICO

By L. A. CHANGA
Our Latin American Correspondent

SAN JUAN

Of all the colonies seized by the United States from Spain in that great spasm of imperialism which closed the nineteenth century, Puerto Rico was by far the most shabbily treated, a true Cinderella. Granted, during the first decades of American rule, great progress was made in health, education, transportation, sugar production and even political life. But by 1940, world wide depression, sugar quotas, disastrous hurricanes, bad government and relentless population growth had all conspired to turn a beautiful island into a very unhappy one.

Despite forty years of American day's prices.

Another striking characteristic of the situation was its apparent hopelessness. Actions of the U.S. Congress reflected indifference, ignorance and disregard of the Island's welfare. Occasionally, the Federal Government even took actions that were clearly detrimental to Puerto Rico's interests.

To make matters worse, power and responsibility on the Island were so dispersed as to make it extremely difficult for anybody, whether in Washington or San Juan, to achieve positive results. Despite the theoretical primacy of Congress, the President could veto insular legislation on his own and hold his appointee, the Governor, responsible for what went on. Yet, in practice, the Governor reported to the lower echelons of the Department of Interior and was often considered a mere equal by the local rule, the lives of the great mass of Puerto Ricans were still characterized by poverty and illness. Personal disposable income per family hovered around $600 a year, half that of Mississippi and less than $1,300 at to representatives of Federal agencies and by those members of his own cabinet who were also named by the President. To cap it all off, the spoils system was rampant. The locally elected legislature held effective control over all personnel and budgetary matters, including the Governor's salary and expenses.

Faced with this mess, Puerto Rican politicians repaid Washington in kind. Sometimes mistakenly, sometimes cynically, they consumed the energies of an eitire generation in a noisy and futile battle over political status, pitting the economically disastrous alternative of "independence now" against the political daydream of "statehood now." The leading political party was a coalition of Republicans and Socialists with little in common beyond an appetite for jobs, dependent for its strength on a highly pragmatic mixture of ideals, personal ambitions and vote buying. Thus while Cuba struggled alone with its problems and the Phillipines moved confidently towards independence, Puerto Rico had not even recovered the degree of self-government grantd to it by Spain a few months before the American invasion. This, despite the fact that Puerto Ricans were already full-fledged American citizens.

Not all acquiesced to the status quo, however, Under the leadership of Luis Munoz Marin, a man who combined political genius with philosophical originality, some of the younger politicians broke with their parties and began to sound out the voters and organize. Out of this process came the Popular Democratic Party, which threw itself into the 1940 elections on what was, for the times, a revolutionary program: Political status is not an issue! Bread, land, and liberty! Don't sell your vote! Do not trust politicians — rely only on performance, not promises! Specifically, every Popular Democratic candidate to the legislature pledged publicly to vote, if elected, for some twenty-six bills drafted in advance and approved at party mass meetings.

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To nearly everyone's surprise, the Popular Democrats came within a hair's breath of a plurality in the election and obtained working control of the Insular legislature. Munoz was elected President of the Senate. From then on, although it was uphill slogging nearly all the way, Munox and the *populares* went on to victory after victory, not merely at the polls but in the arduous and difficult task of creating the economic, social and political progress which has made Puerto Rico a shining example of sustained and successful development. During much of the colonial period, Munoz had the valiant and energetic collaboration of Rexford G. Tugwell as chief insular executive. In 1948, Munoz became Puerto Rico's first elected governor in more than four hundred and fifty years.

Then, at long last, in 1952, self-determination finally came to Puerto Rico. By mutual agreement between the United States Congress and the people of the Island, the Commonwealth or "Free Associated State" of Puerto Rico was created as a new kind of star in the American political firmament. Elected first Governor of the Commonwealth, Luis Munoz Marin went on to win two more terms, cleanly and democratically.

Today Puerto Rico and its Governor pause briefly at an all-time high of achievement before vigorously pushing on to the many tasks which still lie ahead. For more than two decades, economic growth in Puerto Rico has been rapid, continuous, and accelerating. Gross product and net income have both multiplied over eightfold since 1940. Despite a one-third increase in population, *real per capita* net income is rising at an annual rate of more than seven percent compounded. Personal disposable income per family has been raised to an average of $3,500 a year, well above President Johnson's "poverty line." School enrollment has more than doubled. Life expectancy has risen to seventy years. Our fellow citizens in the Commonwealth are buying cars at the rate of 50,000 a year. Where a few dozen sugar mills and eight hundred small

Munoz

shops existed before, today there are over 2,000 real factories and refineries, more than half promoted or assisted under the Commonwealth's comprehensive development program. Even agriculture is advancing, with dairy and poultry products rivalling sugar cane. Under the Commonwealth, residents enjoy the benefits of a modern government of high financial reputation. It differs chiefly from those of the fifty "federated" states in that resident neither vote in Federal elections nor, appropriately therefore, pay Federal income taxes. A joint Federal-Puerto Rican status commission is, among other things, currently reviewing this political invention with a view to its improvement. Governor Munoz himself not only enjoys the profound esteem of the majority of Puerto Ricans but is an international figure, admired by and the friend of the presidents of the United States and other democratic nations. At sixty-six he is very much alive in body, mind, and spirit.

Under the circumstances and with elections a few months away, it would have been entirely logical for Munoz to seek still another term as Governor. Yet Munoz convinced his party to let him run for the state senate this fall and to nominate a quiet, unassuming administrator for Governor in-

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stead. This act of withdrawing at the height of one's power and success has few precedents in political history and even provoked a few gasps of admiration from some of Munoz's severest critics. The word of his intention also threw the recent Popular Democratic convention into pandemonium. People screamed, shouted, gesticulated and cried, in anger and in sorrow. For a while it was touch and go as to whether they would accept Munoz's "retirement." Of course, some of them over the years had become too dependent on a strong leader, others knew they were going to miss a firm coattail on which to ride in elections. But basically the convention was for Munoz for the same reason a majority of Puerto Ricans are for Munox, for the same reason Lyndon B. Johnson and Romulo Betancourt are for him. Although the stage on which he has chosen to play his role in history appears small at first glance, Luis Munoz Marin is one of the great leaders of the democratic world.

Aside from cheap air transport, all of Puerto Rico's unusual disadvantages and advantages existed to a greater or lesser degree prior to 1940. Yet nothing happened. Then something was added. Part of it was Munoz Marin's kind of leadership. Another part was what he got the people of Puerto Rico to find in themselves. In reality, this is what people from all over the world have come to the Commonwealth to see and what is transferable and most important in the Puerto Rican experience. Despite the allegations of the more intellectually dishonest of his opponents, Munoz has never been a dictator or a demagague. With the voters, he is not only a politician but a teacher and a learner, concerned with those problems of immediate concern to them, yet reminding them of the long run and the big picture; asking them to think and talking thoughtfully, yet always speaking plainly about fancy problems.

Why then did Munoz do it? Some cynical souls say that Munoz will continue to be Governor in fact if not in name, manipulating his successor like a puppet. But such an arrangement would be administratively intolerable to Munoz the administrator, in today's Puerto Rico. Moreover, it ignores Munoz the philosopher. After a generation in power, Munoz has contributed even more to political and economic theory than he has learned about them. However, only bits and pieces of his more profound thoughts have been verbalized, and these are scattered through a thousand speeches.

Roberto Sánchez

Then too, as Puerto Rico adds Operation Serenity to Operation Bootstrap and begins to block out the shape of the civilization to which it aspires, Munoz wants the time and the freedom to concentrate on the future rather than on the present. In pursuit of his interest, he is liable to wind up on the Status Commission, for he is a great admirer of U.S. political ideals and of the scope for political creativity inherent in its constitution. In brief, Munoz very much wants time to talk with the people, to think, to study and to write. It is not his intention "to pass from the Governor's mansion to the hammock."

There is a more important explanation, however. One of Munoz' main purposes in 1940 was to get people to believe in themselves, to rely on themselves. Despite the nomination for a fifth term handed to him on a silver platter, he still held to this purpose. The people must not depend on him, but on themselves, and on the democratic process. In his own words,

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". . . it is necessary to establish a high tradition around the handing over of power in Puerto Rico . . . it is necessary to spare our party the perplexity and confusion that might occur . . . if I should disappear . . . suddenly . . . . . I would wish to give this example of democratic education to my people . . . I believe in the people of Puerto Rico. And I want the people of Puerto Rico to have incontrovertible proof that they can rely on themselves and not have to depend on any man . . . Believe in yourselves as I believe in you. That is your strength!"

Will they believe? The answer depends in part on the Popular Democratic candidate for Governor, Roberto Sanchez Vilella, since 1952 Secretary of State and, as the occasion has required, Acting Governor. Among other things, Sanchez is an engineer, a sixth-generation public servant and an ex-mayor of San Juan. In the latter job, he supervised construction of the Caribe Hilton Hotel. Although the convention was for Munoz rather than against Sanchez, to some people he is an excessively quiet, excessively intellectual administrator with a difficult character and no political talent, nevertheless admirable for his extraordinary efficiency, honesty, intelligence, willingness to work hard and for his amazing memory. These people forget, however, that if his platform manner has been a little serious and informal, each politician has his own style and that Sanchez has had to keep his in the background while serving as Secretary of State for the Commonwealth.

For instance, when Sanchez organized the Metropolitan Transport Authority, he not only put a decrepit bus line "on its wheels," mechanically, financially and administratively, but achieved a relation with the employees which has not entirely disappeared after twenty years. Moving easily through the sheds and shops, Sanchez would unselfconsciously stop to join in a smoke or exchange a racing tip with an employee, never minding the greasy hand that might be placed on his clean white shirt in a comradely gesture. Of course, after many years in the Governor's shadow, Sanchez will take time to find his style again. But undoubtedly he will find it. And when he does, he should make quite a governor. Nobody knows more about how the Commonwealth works.

Thus the "retirement" of Luis Munoz Marin from the governship is an important event, but does not create a crisis. Nor does it mean a withdrawal from politics for Munoz. On the contrary, he and Sanchez will be right up there in the headlines, but in different roles from those to which we are accustomed. In the slang of public administration, Munoz and Sanchez are changing hats; and that is what is happening in Puerto Rico.

Some Marriage Business

Robert and Suellen McAndrews are Peace Corps workers in Liberia. The following report by Mrs. McAndrews, slightly shortened here, appeared originally in The Peace Corps Volunteer:

In Kpaiyea Village, each man has at least two wives; he has usually lived with each one—in order to "see her ways"—from two months to 10 years before their marriage. This trial marriage is called "friend business," and once a man and woman decide to remain together, they are usually loyal to each other and make responsible parents.

Since the villagers would have no way of knowing whether Bob and I were married or were having "friend business," we decided to announce our marriage to them in a way they would be sure to understand: by having a tribal ceremony. When we asked the chief's permission to be married according to Kpellee custom, he broke into a wide grin and jerked his head up and down in affirmation.

He was reluctant to tell us many details about the ceremony because he wanted to guide it as we went along. He told Bob some of the things to have prepared, and he said that he

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would tell the town crier to announce the marriage the day before so that the people would stay home from their fams.

My parents left Colorado Springs during a fierce snowstorm and arrived in Liberia a day later. I went down to Monrovia, the capital, to greet them.

The next day we drove inland to Kpaiyea, in the northeast, near Guinea. Because there had been no rain for two months, the once-green foliage bordering the road was completely covered by red dust. After six hours en route to Kpaiyea, so were we.

Some American friends who had come to see the ceremony greeted us, and so did about 30 of our Kpaiyea school children who immediately and incessantly asked us their usual question: "What did you bring me, teacha?" We told them they would have to wait until after the "marriage business," and then we would give them some rice.

Bob and I quickly put on our country clothes, made of cloth printed in yellow, white, and blue. I wrapped the *lappa* around my waist so that it hung down just below my knees, and then I put the *buba* on over my head and zipped it up the back. Soon afterward, we set out to climb the hill on which the village sits.

By the time we had reached there, we were surrounded by villagers asking me incredulously if the couple with us was really my mother and father. They found it hard to believe that my parents can be in their 50s and still alive. The rest of the Americans — about 30 in all — were grouped in the center of the village; never before had so many white people visited Kpaiyea at one time — except perhaps when Sargent Shriver visited here last year.

Bob was there with a mat and a blanket rolled up under his arm. Chairs were brought for the elders of the village. Chief Ghighi, the clan leader of five villages, wore his blue-and-white spotted robe and a small stocking cap. Flanghik, the town chief and Ghighi's brother, sat next to Ghighi. He was wearing a white robe with yellow embroidery on the neck, and his knitted hat had a blue pompon that jiggled whenever he nodded. Mr. Kamara, one of the elders, wore a white robe typical of those of Muslim faith, and a red, fez-like hat.

Chief Ghighi told Tommy, the Kpellee boy who would help us translate, to tell Bob to sit on the blanket. My parents and I had to sit on the mat so that we faced Bob.

Bob needed a man to act as his representative—his "uncle." So he asked one of the villagers who could speak a little English. My father asked George Radcliffe, our fellow Volunteer in Kpaiyea, to represent him. All the actual negotiations were carried on between George and Bob's "uncle." Tommy was standing by with the necessary cola nuts, money, and other gifts for exchange.

The ceremony began. The uncle wrapped 10 cola nuts in four large green leaves and inserted 25c (Liberia uses American currency). He handed it to George and said that Bob had seen me "walking about" in the village and wanted me to be his wife. Cola nuts, which are used for every important occasion, were a symbol of agreement to negotiate. George took the nuts, gave them to my father, and then my father took 10 of his cola nuts, wrapped them in leaves with 25c, and gave them back as a sign of agreement.

The uncle told George to ask my father to ask me if I would agree to become Bob's wife. I answered yes with such gusto that everyone laughed. My father helped me up from the mat, gave my hand to George, who gave it to the uncle. He led me to Bob's mat, and I sat down next to him. A buzz of voices arose from the crowd around us, and everyone pressed closer. Chief Gbigbi stood up and waved the people back. He told them that the Americans had come a long way to visit their village and see how they conducted marriage business. "Everyone should be quiet so that they can all hear, and if you're not interested, go do some other business," he told

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them The frown left his face, and he sat down.

The uncle told Tommy to fetch the gifts for my parents. Tommy went to the house and returned with two brightly colored garments. The uncle took them and told Bob to place $5 in the one for my father and $2 in the one for my mother. Then he gave them to George with these words: "We know that it has been a heartache for you to raise a daughter all these years and then have her leave home. These presents are to compensate for having to lose a daughter."

It was time for the big moment, the binding part of the ceremony. The uncle told Bob to go with Tommy to the house that contained the gifts. In a few minutes they returned, and Bob handed $40 to the uncle. He counted it carefully into George's hand, and then George counted it out to my father. The uncle then explained that my father was to accept this dowry. He was not to spend it or return it to us, for in case I ever wanted to leave Bob, my father would have to repay the $40 and add $40 more to pay for the trouble I had caused.

Bob wanted to give something extra to please my father and show that he was eager to buy me. Tommy appeared with a large white rooster, untied it, and handed it to my father, explaining that it was a symbol of Bob's pure heart. The uncle stood between the mats, raised his hands in the air, and shouted, "Let's all cheer! We've bought ourselves a woman!"

The crowd cheered for a few minutes, and then Chief Gbigbi stood up, folded his hands in front of him, and said that it was time for the chief to give his blessing and advice. A hush fell over the villagers, and he began his long speech. After every phrase, the villagers chanted a Kpellee "amen" of approval. Chief Gbigbi praised the Peace Corps for coming to Liberia, and then he thanked all the American visitors who had come to his village. He faced Bob and me and said that he believed that it was God's will that we had come to Kpaiyea and that Bob had decided to take me as his wife in a Kpellee ceremony. He advised us that our love for each other should increase year after year, and he said he hoped that we would be blessed with a boy child soon. "Amen!" said the villagers, and they all crowded around to shake our hands. Then they began to ask where the marriage rice was. The villagers like weddings because it means eating and dancing for everyone. Tommy, together with Mary Mulbah, the wife of our Liberian school principal, had prepared three huge pans of rice and a couple of buckets of soup made from palm oil, potato greens, deer meat, hot pepper, and fish. As soon as the Americans had filled their plates, Mary opened the door and let the villagers swarm in. They were eager to eat, and most of them ate the rice in handfuls from the pan in their customary manner. Then they began to ask for palm wine and fermented cane juice to make them completely satisfied so that they would be ready to dance.

The drummers began to play on one large drum and two smaller ones. The women joined with their marca-like *sasas* shaking out a complementary beat. The villagers began to chant, and their bodies began to sway. I danced with the head woman for a while, and then the people called for Bob to dance. He put on a vigorous show, which they enjoyed. Another group of drummers and *sa-sa* players started up in another part of the village, and soon many of the people were dancing there. Had the moon been full, they would have danced all night. As it was, the festivities ended at one in the morning.

With my parents, Bob and I walked down the hill to my house. The night was dark and cool, and the frogs were croaking. We were tired and happy. We felt very married.

Three days later we were married again at a church in Monrovia and I wore my great-grandmother's 105-year-old wedding dress.

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Where's George Ball?

George W. Ball, to the best of our knowledge, was recently Undersecretary of State. He apparently isn't anymore, for when we sent a complimentary copy of THE IDLER to him it was returned with this notation: "Not at U. S. State Dept. No forwarding address."

Where *is* George Ball? If any of our readers can enlighten us, we'll be happy to forward him a copy of THE IDLER. We wonder if Dean Rusk realizes that his Undersecretary has disappeared.

Letter From the Editor

Hon. John Ashbrook, M.C.
Hon. James B. Utt, M.C.
National Advisory Board
Young Americans for Freedom, Inc.
514 C St. NE
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressmen:

Thank you for your letter asking me to support Young Americans for Freedom and asking me several questions that I shall try to answer.

You ask: *"What have you done recently to insure that your children or grandchildren will live as free men and women?"*

That's embarrassing because, frankly, I haven't been doing as much as I should. But I will say, in my own defense, that I am planning to vote for Johnson. I've given a few bucks to some good causes when they ask for it, and I did try to convince a fellow in a bar the other night that the civil rights bill was a fine thing for all Americans. Other than that, and putting out this litle magazine (a copy of which is enclosed), I'm afraid that I haven't been too active. Your query encourages me to try to do a bit better.

The second question you posed was: *"Will you pass on to them a country free of liberalism, socialism, and communism?"*

Well, what I hope is that you and I will pass on to them a country so full of the first *ism*, that they won't have to worry about the last two.

Liberalism is not, as I'm sure you know, a way station on the route to communism. It's the antithesis of Communism. The Communists don't like liberals because when the liberal philosophy is in power their own sales drop. It's when people become frustrated by reactionaries, indifferent government, political and economic injustice that they start reading the Communists' sales brochures.

I guess I've gone on too long about what I've been doing and thinking. What have you been up to lately?

Sincerely yours,

Editor

THE IDLER

P.S. I notice that not only have you collected thousands of signatures on petitions against the nuclear test ban treaty, but on petitions "for the preservation of the Monroe Doctrine," as well. I want you to know that I would be happy to sign that last petition. I believe completely in the preservation of historical documents of all kinds and had no idea the Monroe Doctrine was in danger of being destroyed. I assumed that it was safe behind glass in the Library of Congress or some where. Proves you just can't be too careful.

Dr. Frank Stanton, in NEW YORK, says his network, CBS, has "authorized" a study to determine if early projection of election returns could influence the results. How about a study by Bayer on whether aspirin is better than Anacin?

American Airlines has come up with the most unnecessary innovation of the year. As part of their Astrovision program, they are planning to install nose cameras "for live television shots of your own take-off."

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LATEST FROM THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF NEWS MANAGEMENT

The news release below was distributed by the Small Business Administration for the benefit of businessmen visiting the White House:

Small Business Administration
Washington, D. C.

(Note.—The following suggested news release should be reproduced on your business letterhead or release masthead and distributed to newspapers, radio and television stations in your area. — Rose McKee, Director, Office of Public Information.)

(Release date).

(Name, business affiliation and address) has returned from Washington where he was the guest of President Lyndon B. Johnson at a White House reception honoring small business leaders from all parts of the country.

The President is addressing the group of about 300 emphasized the "big responsibilities" of small business in the American economy, according to (name), who quoted Mr. Johnson as saying:

"Every American community draws its base of leadership—its stability—its continuity—and its drive for progress—from responsible and progressive small businessmen.

"Today the future of our system and our society is being determined not here in this city, not in this House, not on Capitol Hill. The quality of the America your children and mine will know is being determined in the communities where Americans live and where you lead."

(Name) said the President spoke to the group in the famed East Room of the White House and introduced leading members of his administration including secretary of State Dean Rusk, Commerce Secretary Luther H. Hodges, Walter W. Heller, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers; Small Business Administrator Eugene P. Foley, and officials of the Defense Department. Rusk and Heller were among those who also addressed the group.

"The President in his talk," (Name) said, "stressed his devotion to the free enterprise system and emphasized that he will never permit Government to be either an enemy of business or a parasite on business."

Mr. Johnson also, according to (Name), referred to the Nation's remarkable prosperity and said that the last 3½ years have been "the most prosperous our people have ever known." (Name) said the President continued:

"For 42 consecutive months, we have had the longest and largest and most stable peacetime expansion of our economy on record. Last month 72.4 million Americans were at work—a new record. Unemployment declined below the the 5 per cent mark. The worker is doing better. The American family is doing better than ever before. The American businessman has never done so well for so long * * *."

The President also told the group that most successful business-builders are "almost always the most active community builders."

(Name) met the President personally after the formal talks and exchanged views with other guests during the reception, held in the State Dining Room.

CRIME

by Nicholas Katzenbach, Attorney General

CRIME AND RACE

The increases in the crime rate have been great, but they have overwhelmingly been increases in crime against property. Such crimes—robbery, burglary, larceny, and auto theft — account for 90 per cent of serious crime. In 1963, crimes in this category increased by 11 per cent.

Crimes against the person increased far less. Aggravated assault went up 6 per cent, murder 1 per cent, and rape 1 per cent. These increases are only slightly greater than the population increase.

There appears to be no significant connection between a city's crime rate and its Negro population. During a debate on the Civil Rights Act in Congress, there was frequent reference to the crime rate of Washington, D.C., whose population is 54 per cent Negro. I do not recall a single reference to Phoenix, Ariz.—a city I pick at random—the population of which is 95 per cent white and whose crime rate is a third higher than that of Washington.

Excerpts from a speech by the Attorney General before the Federal Bar Association.

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The point is further demonstrated by suburban crime figures. In the first 6 months of this year, crime in the suburbs—where there are few Negroes — increased approximately 28 per cent. But crime in the city — where Negroes are concentrated — increased at less than half that rate.

The increase in crime generally is directly related to the increase in the teen age and young adult population. Young people commit a very large proportion of the crimes against property — those crimes which have increased most. In New York City for example, more than three-fourths of all auto thefts are committed by those under 21. In Washington, D.C., young people under the age of 17 comprise half of those arrested for robberies, half those arrested for car thefts and 40 per cent of those arrested for housebreakings.

The number of persons aged 15 to 24 is growing far faster than the rest of our population. And unhappily, people in this age group account for 70 per cent of all arrests for serious crimes. This does not mean that our young people are crime-prone. Less than 3 per cent of young people are ever arrested. But it does mean that our efforts to solve crime problems should in large measure be devoted to the problems of our youth. Juvenile delinquents may cease to be juveniles at 21, but they do not automatically cease to be delinquents.

This point applies demonstrably to the recent riots in Harlem, Rochester, Philadelphia, Jersey City and elsewhere. Plainly, these riots involved Negroes. But what is significant is not their race, but that some of our worst slum areas are occupied by Negroes; that the unemployment rate among Negroes in these cities is two and three times that of whites; that the school dropout rate among Negroes is twice that of whites. It is clear from the facts of the riots how these circumstances apply:

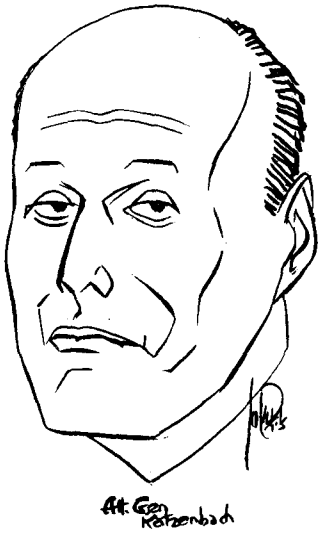
1. Most of those involved in the riots were between 15 and 25, unemployed, without education, jobs — or hope.

2. Juvenile gang members played a role in the riots in each city, and a large percentage of those arrested or known to have participated had criminal or juvenile records.

3. The participants came from poor, overcrowded slum areas.

4. To the extent that these riots could be said to have had a focus, they were aimed against police officials and merchants in Negro areas. And they were motivated, in part, by the possibility of an opportunity to loot — to make financial gain — under the cover of the disorder.

5. Only one of the riots occurred in areas of likely racial conflict, where Negro and white neighborhoods adjoin. The remainder have occurred in the heart of Negro neighborhoods.



I do not mean to imply that Negroes do not commit crimes. Of course they do. What I do mean to show is that to draw a causal connection between membership in the Negro race and crime is wrong. The relevant link is not between riots and race, but between riots and delinquency, between lawlessness and lawless environments.

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CRIME AND THE SUPREME COURT

I have read the opinion recently that the problems of crime and of local law enforcement stem from an "obsessive concern" on the part of judges "for the rights of the criminal defendant." I have read that the courts have taken away from the states powers which are "absolutely necessary for fair and efficient administration of criminal law." And, I have read, this is why crime is increasing.

These assertions are uninformed. More damaging, they are irresponsible. It is a historic function of the Supreme Court to insure that state convictions comport with due process of law. Undeniably, some decisions have created problems for state law enforcement officials. But then so has the Bill of Rights. In neither case have any fundamental state powers been destroyed.

I think it is helpful to review some of the fruits of powers which are supposedly "absolutely necessary" to the states and which the Supreme Court has declared unconstitutional:

The conviction of a man without evidence.

Conviction of a man upon the prosecutor's knowing use of perjured testimony.

The trial of a man for a serious crime without the assistance of a lawyer.

The conviction of a man upon a confession coerced by the police, or upon a subsequent confession induced by the knowledge that the police already had the extorted confession.

The trial of a man before a jury biased against him.

Which of such vital powers, I wonder, should a state have?

The individual rights the Court has defended in these cases are part of the fundamental guarantees our country makes to every citizen. I cannot understand how anyone committed to individual liberty could consider violations of these rights as mere "technical" violations, or consider protection against such violations as "obsessive concern" by our judges.

Uncle Abner Says...

Dear Uncle Abner:

Since it looks like Goldwater is going to lose this election, what do you suggest he do for a living?

R. F. G.

Well, might be a good idea if he tried out for police chief of Phoenix. Understand he's got some good thoughts about using moral persuasion to lessen crime. They've got plenty of crime to use moral persuasion on out there. Else, he might get a job as a tree surgeon. That way he can defoliate safely.

Dear Uncle Abner:

You're meant to be an old man, but that drawing doesn't make you look very old. Or isn't it your picture?

R. P.

Well, it ain't the editor (he doesn't use a cane), the printer (he doesn't wear a hat), or the secretary (for obvious reasons), so it must be me. I admit it's a mite flattering, but you take a look at the picture of your favorite columnist in the paper and try to figure out when the photo was taken. Bet you three-to-one, it's more than five years old. We columnists are like that; yes, we are.

Dear Uncle Abner:

Do you know a good cure for a hang-over?

L. F.

Nope. Do you?

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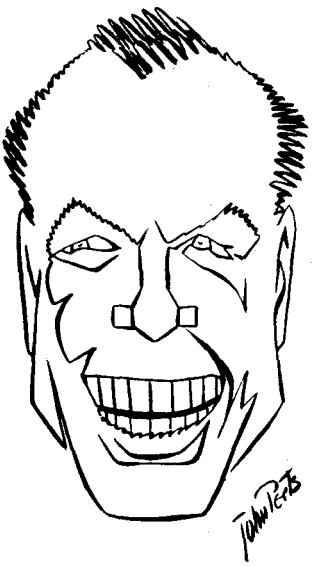
WHAT'S A WHIP?

The Democrats, this year, presented the voters with an all-whip national ticket. Senator Hubert Humphrey is the present Senate Majority Whip and Lyndon Johnson held the Democratic Whip post from 1951 to 1953. The following article (copyright CQ) discusses this interesting yet little known political job:

Sen. Humphrey
Senate Majority Whip
During 88th Congress

The office of whip came to the United States from the British Parliament, where the term was first used more than 200 years ago. It was derived from the "whipper-in" of a hunt, who was a huntsman assigned the task of keeping the hounds from wandering by whipping them back into the pack when they strayed.

In English parliamentary usage, the whip was a member chosen by the leaders of his party for the special duty of securing the attendance of his fellow party members for important votes. The whip of the majority party also had the task of assisting in the distribution of patronage to make certain that assignments were disposed of in such a way as to secure the support of important members of Parliament for his party's programs. In addition, the whip arranged for the "pairing" of votes for members of his party who were absent during an important roll call.



Sen. Kuchel
Senate Minority Whip

The first United States Senate whips were selected in 1915. Since then, each party has chosen someone to fill the position regularly, except for a period of 11 years when the Republicans had no elected whip, but authorized the Chairman of the Republican Conference to appoint Senators to assist him in his duties.

The duties of the Senate whips in 1964 remained much what they were when the first whips were appointed. In a still pertinent description inserted in the Congressional Record of May 12, 1936, Sen. James Hamilton Lewis (D Ill.), who had become the first Democratic whip in 1915, summed up the job as one of "keeping a finger . . . upon the pulse" of the Senate.

An exact description of the whip's job is difficult to provide, since the duties vary according to the individual filling the position and the existing legislative and political situation in the Senate. However, the following may be considered the major activities to which the whip normally devotes himself:

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—Keeping track of how party members stand on issues. It is the responsibility of the whip to keep the party's floor leader informed of the opinions and views of party's members and what may be expected from each on a given issue. This requires the whip to be in constant and close contact with each Senator of his party, and occasionally to canvass them on specific bills and report the results to the floor leader.

—Lining up support for the party's program and positions. When the outlook for a vote on an important issue appears to be in doubt, the whip attempts to line up support for his party's position among Senators known to be wavering or to favor the opposite side. His efforts range from seeking to persuade Senators to back the party's stand to calling on influential leaders of labor, business and other special interest groups in the Senator's state to exert whatever pressures they can.

—Keeping track of the whereabouts of party members. It is the whip's responsibility to summon members of his party to the Capitol — or, if they are out of town, to Washington, D. C. — for any close, crucial votes that come up unexpectedly.

—Serving as policymaker. As one of the members of his party who is most informed about the prospects for passage of specific bills, the whip takes part in discussions and decisions on when to bring up a bill, what parliamentary tactics to use to achieve passage and other policy questions regarding legislation before the Senate.

In addition to these duties, the Senate whip also is the assistant floor leader of his party. As such, he serves as acting floor leader in the absence of the elected leader and often during consideration of bills dealing with issues with which he is particularly familiar. Humphrey, for example, has often served as acting Majority Leader for agriculture, medical and health, and civil rights legislation. His job as floor leader of the civil rights bill earlier this year, in close cooperation with Sen. Kuchel, gave him considerable public exposure which strengthened the support he received from civil rights advocates for his selection as Vice Presidential candidate.

In most respects, the duties of the majority and minority whips are identical. The major difference concerns the party which controls the White House. That party's whip, whether representing the majority or minority in the Senate, serves as a means of communication between the White House and the Senate. Humphrey, for example, as majority whip, has attended regular weekly meetings between Congressional leaders and the President. It has been his duty both to inform the President of sentiment for portions of his legislative program and to relay the President's thinking and wishes to members of his party in the Senate.

While similar to each other, however, the jobs of both Senate whips differ in several respects from those of the House. In the first place, the House whips normally have a number of assistants, each of whom is responsible for the members of their party from one or more states. In the numerically smaller Senate, where the whips do not face the task of turning up large blocs of votes, such a formal set-up is not necessary, and the whips themselves do most of the personal contact work.

Also, some of the duties performed by the House whips and their assistants are done in the Senate by the Secretaries to the Majority and the Minority. They or their staffs often handle such chores as arranging for Senators to serve as presiding officer and setting up pairs for absent Members, leaving the whip himself free to spend his time drumming up support for party programs.

The whip is in a good position to become floor leader should that position become vacant. Since 1950, five of the nine Senate majority and minority leaders followed this course to become party floor leaders.

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Our Distinguished Colleague's House

The other evening we dropped over to Senator Percival B. Coddingham's house for dinner. We had often wondered what the domestic life of a Senator is like and we were not too surprised to find certain similarities between it and his workaday world.

Mrs. Coddingham answered the bell. "The honorable senior member of the household is out in the patio making a thoroughly noble effort to get the charcoal started," she said as we walked through the door.

Just at that moment, little 11-year-old Susie Coddingham rushed through the hall on her roller skates. We flattened ourselves against the wall to prevent her from flattening us against the floor.

Mrs. Coddingham grabbed Susie by the scruff of the neck and warned, "I feel it incumbent upon me to point out to the very vivacious and charming senior child that I have repeatedly pointed out to her the danger of roller skating through these venerable halls. Now go tell your distinguished father that our very able guest is here."

A few minutes later, the charcoal-smudged Senator Coddingham made his appearance. He welcomed us warmly. "It was to my deep regret that I was not present here on the floor when my capable colleague made his appearance. I further wish to state that it has been brought to my attention that my very clever and efficient wife made certain flattering remarks about the nature of my efforts to get the charcoal started. I deeply appreciate her solicitude. I am not one to boast needlessly of my own accomplishments, but I feel it important to point out to those here present, and to the residents of my great sovreign state, that I did, indeed, get the charcoal started. This extremely difficult accomplishment was achieved only with the aid of certain relevant instructions that appeared on the back of the can of lighter fluid. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent to include in my remarks at this point those very instructions. I would further ask unanimous consent to include in my remarks at this point a study, prepared at my request by the Legislative Reference Service of the Library of Congress, dealing with the relative number of failures and successes in getting charcoal started in outdoor grills throughout the United States during fiscal 1964, and a report by the Department of Labor on the number of persons employed in the charcoal, lighter fluid, and outdoor grill industries in my state."

(There being no objection the material was ordered printed in the Record.)

At this point, Mrs. Coddingham interrupted: "Will the Senator yield?"

Senator Coddingham: "I yield."

Mrs. Coddingham: "I would just like to say to my competent and thoughtful husband that he is to be congratulated for his successful efforts and for his extremely useful remarks on the problem of starting charcoal, I am sure that he has made an important contribution to the discussion of this issue."

Susie Coddingham: "Will the Senator yield?"

Senator Coddingham: "I yield."

Susie Coddingham: "I would simply like to lend my support to the wise remarks of my gifted and conscientious mother. There is no question but what the senior member of this household has aided the entire nation in offering his thoughts on the charcoal question. I would further like to say that while my attentive and studious mother made certain remarks with which I did not entirely agree concerning my roller skating in these ancient and hallowd halls, I admire her forthrightness and appreciate her contribution to the national dialogue on this matter. Finally, I would like to suggest that it is time for dinner."

Senator Coddingham: "I suggest the absence of a quorum."

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The roll was called. Billy Coddingham, age 9, appeared in time and a vote was taken on the question of whether to proceed to dinner. Senator Coddingham again had the floor:

"I announce that my aged and able mother, who is in Florida at this time, and our very capable maid, whose night out this is, are paired on this question. My mother, if present, would vote Yea, and our maid, if present, would vote Nay."

The roll was called and a majority of those present and voting voted in favor of proceeding to dinner.

We moved out to the patio, where the Coddingham family was shocked to find that the fire had gone out during the long colloquy in the hallway.

They stood watching the cold charcoal for a few moments. Senator Coddingham was the first to speak:

"I wish to point out to my distinguished colleagues that this fire was going when I left it a few minutes ago. The means by which the conflagration has been extinguished without cognizant authority is undoubtedly one that should be subject to intensive investigation. We can not, in this great land of ours, permit such occurrences, and I assure those present that I shall press for an immediate inquiry into this matter. I further emphasize that when I left this fire it was in a definite state of escalation."

Mrs. Coddingham: "While it may appear to my colleagues here in the patio that we will not possibly have dinner tonight, I am happy to announce that there are several hard boiled eggs in the refrigerator that will be made immediately available. I further request permission to extend and revise my remarks at this point to include extraneous matter concerning the food value of hard boiled eggs, found in an excellent editorial in the Fiddleburg Farmer's Weekly."

(Mrs. Coddingham was given permission to extend and revise her remarks, then she retired to kitchen to get the hard boiled eggs. Senator Coddingham got on his phone to his secretary and dictated a statement to be issued to the press on the need for an investigation into the poor quality of lighter fluid.

Billy Coddingham started to make paper airplanes out of some papers in his father's brief case. Susie Coddingham took advantage of the situation to get in some more roller skating in the hall.

We ate dinner, listened to the discussion for awhile longer, and then went home. It sounded as though the Coddinghams would be debating long into the night and we had to get up early the next morning. Anyway, we could always read about it in the next day's Record.

Otto Steen, of BISHOP, CALIF., is known as the Sierra Philosopher. While we are sure our readers are fully familiar with the more traditional philosophers, Mr. Steen's views may not have had as much currency. Therefore, we print the following excerpt, without comment, gleaned from a newspaper piece on Steen, that the Sierra Philosopher sent us, along with 50 for a sample copy of THE IDLER: IDLER:

"When you think a thing, the thing you think is not the thing you think you think, but only the thing that makes you think you think the thing you think you think."

Uncle Abner Says...

"I'm sorry to report that all copies of my book 'We Need Harding' have been sold out. I suggest you spend your money on a year's subscription to THE IDLER, *instead. It's better than the book, anyway."*

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ADVERTISEMENTS

1. Commission-based Ads. Our policy is explained elsewhere in this issue. **Where only an Idler box number is listed, readers should include a five cent stamp so their inquiry may be quickly forwarded to the advertiser.**

2. Free Ads for Subscribers. May not be selling a service or product. Should be brief. The Idler reserves the right to edit all ads. Ads in this category will be dropped after one month unless request is renewed. The Idler assumes no responsibilities for transactions. Printed on space-available basis.

3. Paid Classified Advertising: Ten cents a word.

4. Other Paid Advertising: See elsewhere in this issue for rates.

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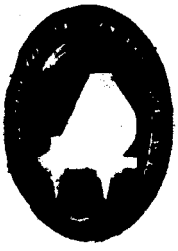

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ICELANDIC FOODS

AM seeking sources of Icelandic specialties such as **skyr, hrutspungur, rikklingur** (no **hangikjot,** please). L.M.B., 24 Greenough Ave., Cambridge 39, Mass.

WANTED: One used "Assimil" French course in at least relatively good condition. Write L. S., Apt. 2C, 7005 Shore Road, Brooklyn 9, N. Y.

FOR SALE—Blaine Hat. Worn in 1884 campaign. Inscribed "Young Men's Blaine Club," Cincinnati. $20. C.K.P. 1106 Cherokee Road, Louisville, Ky. 40204.

BEST OF LUCK to THE IDLER—"Republicans for Goldwater."

NIETZSCHE BUFFS

AM doing Ph. D. thesis on Nietzsche's philosophy of education. Need references and leads. Write D.C.S., 6930 Simpson, N. Hollywood, Calif.

BACK-ISSUE INDEX

Each month, THE IDLER prints an index of articles from past issues that have continuing interest. While they last, these back issues may be ordered from THE IDLER, 125 5th St. NE, Washington 2, D. C. at 50c a copy. Please enclose the proper amount. We can not bill.

HURRICANES—Detailed report of what they are, how they are formed, and their effects (Sept. '64)

PRAYER-READING DECISION OF SUPREME COURT—Detailed reply to critics by constitutional lawyer Leo Pfeffer (Sept. '64)

TITANTIC—New light on the role of the **Californian** in the **Titantic** disaster. (Oct. '64)

VOTING REGISTRATION — Why millions are disenfranchised by restrictive registration laws. (Oct. '64)

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